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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/942,905	08/31/2001	Osamu Imaichi	1021.40599X00	8131

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MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C. 1800 DIAGONAL ROAD SUITE 370 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314	LY, ANH	
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SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/08/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/942,905	IMAICHI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Anh Ly	2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>07 August 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This Office action is response to Applicants' AMENDMENT filed on 08/07/2006.

2.   Claims 1-23 are pending in this Application.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments filed 08/07/2006 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive.

Applicant argued that, "The features of claims 1, 6 and 16 are described in the

specification at page 3, line 31 to page 4 line 1 and at page 4 lines 12-25." (page 9, third

paragraph).

Page 3 and Page 4 of specification is belonging to Summary of the Invention

section. It is still nowhere to show about "generated from a previous search of a

document database;" in that section as well as Detailed Description of the Invention.

Applicant argued that, "claim 1 recites a system ... necessarily implemented in

hardware." (page 10, lines 1-3).

Examiner does not agree with applicant's argument that, a system is necessarily

implemented in hardware. No, it is not. For example, search engine system, an

accounting and a payroll system. They are not components of physical machine or

objects or hardware. Applicant is advised to amend the claims to provide a clear and

concise language to the claims in order to one ordinary skill in the art to make and use

the invention as claimed.

Applicant argued that, "Applicants traverse this claim objections (as stated in

section 8 of page 3) (page 10 the last paragraph and page 11, the first paragraph).

In the instant application, the instant claimed limitation is: "A document search

system comprising:

an associative server which is capable of instructing a document search by

specifying a document database j to be searched next among a plurality of document

databases based on a search result generated from a previous search of a document

database i,", as recited in claim 1, where as applicants argued that, "As clearly recited in

independent claims 6 and 16, "i" is modified by the descriptive term "document

database" to describe a first database referred to as a "document database i". Similarly,

"j" is modified by the descriptive term "document database" to describe a second

database referred to as a "document database j". However, Examiner previously

indicated that "Claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, & 23 are objected to

because of the following informalities: the subscript (i, j) in the document database and

x_{ij} should be spell out or indicate clearly in the claim language, (That is, what is the

meaning of i, j, and x)". Thus, the claim objections are still maintained.

Applicant argued that, "an associative server which is capable of instructing a

document search by specifying a document database$_j$ to be searched next among a

plurality of document databases based on a search result generated from a previous

search of a document database$_i$". (page 14, the second paragraph).

Patent No.: US 5,454,105 issued to Hatakeyama et al. (hereinafter Hatakeyama)

teaches the document search system or server consisting of a search function/unit is for

searching or retrieving full of text of documents containing a particular character string

or strings from document database or databases, a set of search results containing the

search term(s) (search character strings) of the search processing performed in the past

may be provided in correspondence to the search request sources (figs. 4, 5, abstract,

col. 6, lines 8-67). Also, in the course of execution, the search is still based on the prior

search results storing in the buffer (abstract)

Applicant argued that, "an associate search recording table that records the

number of times $x(ij)$ of searching the document database j based on the search results

generated from the previous searches of the document database I". (page 14, the last

paragraph).

Hatakeyama teaches the number of times of searching full text of documents

containing a particular character string or string from a document database or

databases and the search result set is stored in the table (see fig. 17, col. 17, lines 10-

28; col. 1, lines 12-20; also see fig. 22, col. 19, lines 47-60; also see col. 14, lines 17-

45).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5.   Claims 1-23 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101. Because the bodies of claims 1, 6

and 16 in view of MPEP 2100 (IV)(B)(2)(b)(ii) sections are non statutory because they

are **lacking of real world useful result**. They are missing the steps or processes

producing any useful result to the invention, of having a utility to convey the final result

achieved by the claimed invention, that is, they are not producing a result tied to the

real/physical world or this application is not a practical application. That is, these claims

are missing "utility requirement" of 35 U.S.C. 101 (MPEP 2107.01), these claims must

show that the claimed invention is "useful" for some purpose either explicitly or implicitly

(Fisher, 421, F.3d 1356, 76 USPQ2d at 1230 and 1225 (Fed. Cir. 2005). That is, these

claims are missing **utility requirement**" of 35 U.S.C. 101 (MPEP 2107.01), these

claims must show that the claimed invention is "useful" for some purpose either

explicitly or implicitly (Fisher, 421, F.3d 1356, 76 USPQ2d at 1230 and 1225 (Fed. Cir.

2005). In addition, when the examiner has reason to believe that the claim is not for a

practical application that produces a useful result, the claim should be rejected, thus

requiring the applicant to distinguish the claim from the three 35 U.S.C. 101 judicial

exceptions to patentable subject matter by specifically reciting in the claim the practical

application. In such cases, statements in the specification describing a practical

application may not be sufficient to satisfy the requirements for section 101 with respect

to the claimed invention. Likewise, a claim that can be read so broadly as to include

statutory and nonstatutory subject matter must be amended to limit the claim to a

practical application. In other words, if the specification discloses a practical application

of a section 101 judicial exception, but the claim is broader than the disclosure such that

it does not require a practical application, then the claim must be rejected.

More specifically, the claimed subject matter provides for "an associative search

recording table which records the number of times $x(ij)$ of searching ... from the

previous searches of said document database(j)". These produced result remains in the

abstract and, thus, fails to achieve the required status of having real world value. For

example, a "real world" result is that "calculating a price of an item to sell and conveying

the calculated price to a potential customer/end-user."

Claims 1-5 and 10-12, "a document search system" does not fall into one of 4

categories of 35 USC 101 requires for the statute the subject matter: process (actual

series of steps or acts); machine (parts of certain devices), manufacture (articles

produced from raw or prepare materials) and composition of matter (2 or more

substances). Thus, It is software per se. So, the "means for" in claims 2 and 4 is also

software per se, too.

Claims 6-9 and 13-15, "a search server" is not directly or positively describing as

"a means of capable of instructing" in the specification (see paragraph 0018). Thus, it

does no useful work.

The claims lack the necessary physical articles or objects to constitute a machine
or a manufacture within the meaning of 35 USC 101. They are clearly not a series of
steps or act to be a process nor are they a combination of chemical compounds to be a
composition of matter. As such, they fail to fall within a statutory category. They are, at
best, functional descriptive material *per se*.

Descriptive material can be characterized as either "functional descriptive
material" or "nonfunctional descriptive material." Both types of "descriptive material" are
nonstatutory when claimed as descriptive material *per se*, 33 F.3d at 1360, 31 USPQ2d
at 1759. When functional descriptive material is recorded on some computer-readable
medium, it becomes structurally and functionally interrelated to the medium and will be
statutory in most cases since use of technology permits the function of the descriptive
material to be realized. Compare *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 1583-84, 32 USPQ2d
1031, 1035 (Fed. Cir. 1994)

Merely claiming nonfunctional descriptive material, i.e., abstract ideas, stored on
a computer-readable medium, in a computer, or on an electromagnetic carrier signal,
does not make it statutory. See *Diehr*, 450 U.S. at 185-86, 209 USPQ at 8 (noting that

the claims for an algorithm in *Benson* were unpatentable as abstract ideas because "[t]he sole practical application of the algorithm was in connection with the programming of a general purpose computer.").

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6.   The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7.   Claims 1, 6 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. As in claims 1, 6 and 16, the clause "... generated from a previous search of a document database$_i$" was not described in the Specification.

Claim Objections

8.   Claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, & 23 are objected to because of the following informalities: the subscript (i, j) in the document database and x_{ij} should be spell out or indicate clearly in the claim language, (That is, what is the meaning of i, j, and x). Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10.   Claims 1-3, 6-9, 10-15,16-18 and 21-23, as the best understanding of the

examiner, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No.

5,454,105 issued to Hatakeyama et al. (hereinafter Hatakeyama).

With respect to claim 1, Hatakeyama teaches a document search system (fig. 5,

a document search and method system for searching and retrieving full text of

documents from a document database or databases: abstract, col. 1, lines 15-20 and

col. 10, lines 8-40), comprising:

an associative server which is capable of instructing a document search by

specifying a document database$_j$ to be searched next among a plurality of document

databases based on a search result generated from a previous search of a document

database$_i$ (the document search system or server consisting of a search function/unit is

for searching or retrieving full of text of documents containing a particular character

string or strings from document database or databases, a set of search results

containing the search term(s) (search character strings) of the search processing

performed in the past may be provided in correspondence to the search request

sources: figs. 4, 5, abstract, col. 6, lines 8-67); and

an associative search recording table which records the number of times X_{ij} of

searching said document database$_j$ based on the search result generated from the

previous searches of said document database$_i$ (fig. 17 shown the number of times of

searching full text of documents containing a particular character string or string from a

document database or databases and the search result set is stored in the table: col.

17, lines 10-28; col. 1, lines 12-20; also see fig. 22, col. 19, lines 47-60).

With respect to claim 2, Hatakeyama teaches changing a showing order of

document databases to be searched by using said associative search recording table

(the ordering of database is displayed: col. 19, lines 47-60).

With respect to claim 3, Hatakeyama teaches wherein a differing said associative

search recording table is stored for each user, and, by using said associative search

recording table for each user, a showing order of document databases to be searched is

changed according to a user (this a document search system for a plurality of users to

perform the search and who might be enable to change the search such as condition,

selecting of input database: col. 17, lines 40-55, col. 10, lines 50-55 and col. 1, lines 20-

25).

With respect to claim 6, Hatakeyama teaches associative means which is

capable of instructing a document search by specifying a document database$_j$ to be

searched next among a plurality of document databases based on a search result

generated from a previous search of a document database$_i$ (the document search

system or server consisting of a search function/unit is for searching or retrieving full of

text of documents containing a particular character string or strings from document

database or databases, a set of search results containing the search term(s) (search character strings) of the search processing performed in the past may be provided in correspondence to the search request sources: figs. 4, 5, abstract, col. 6, lines 8-67);

search query constructing means for sending the search query analyzed by said search query analyzing means to the document database specified by the search client (the search requests are accumulated in the waiting queue: col. 3, lines 1-10);

means for sending a search result of said specified document database to said search client (sending the search result: col. 3, lines 5-10); and

associative search recording table storing means for storing an associative search recording table recording the number of times X_{ij} of searching a document database j based on a search result of a document database i (fig. 17 shown the number of times of searching full text of documents containing a particular character string or string from a document database or databases and the search result set is stored in the table: col. 17, lines 10-28; col. 1, lines 12-20; also see fig. 22, col. 19, lines 47-60).

With respect to claim 7, Hatakeyama teaches showing order changing means for changing a showing order of document databases to be searched and to be shown to said search client by using data from said associative search recording table (the ordering of database is displayed: col. 19, lines 47-60).

With respect to claim 8, Hatakeyama teaches associative search recording table storing means which stores an associative search recording table for each user, and the showing order changing means for changing a showing order of document databases to

be searched and to be shown to said search client according to a user by using said

associative search recording table for each user (this a document search system for a

plurality of users to perform the search and who might be enable to change the search

such as condition, selecting of input database: col. 17, lines 40-55, col. 10, lines 50-55

and col. 1, lines 20-25).

With respect to claim 10, Hatakeyama teaches wherein for each document

database of a plurality of select document databases, the associative search recording

table has plural entries with differing entries for recording a respective number of times

xij of searching the document database j based on a search result of differing ones of

document databases i, respectively (the set of search results based on the search

requests from users inputted to the system accumulated in waiting queue: col. 2, lines

62-67 and col. 3, lines 1-10).

With respect to claim 11, Hatakeyama teaches storing, in the associative search

recording table, a number of times xij of searching a document database j based on a

search result of a keyword I (col. 4, lines 44-60 and col. 5, lines 4-32).

With respect to claim 12, Hatakeyama teaches wherein for each document

database of a plurality of select document databases, the associative search recording

table has plural entries with differing entries for recording a respective number of times

xij of searching the document database j based on a search result of differing ones of

document databases or keywords i, respectively (fig. 17 shown the number of times of

searching full text of documents containing a particular character string or string from a

document database or databases and the search result set is stored in the table: col.

17, lines 10-28; col. 1, lines 12-20; also see fig. 22, col. 19, lines 47-60 and col. 4, lines 44-60 and col. 5, lines 4-32).

With respect to claim 13, Hatayama teaches wherein for each document database of a plurality of select document databases, the associative search recording table has plural entries with differing entries for recording a respective number of times x_{ij} of searching the document database j based on a search result of differing ones of document databases i, respectively (fig. 17 shown the number of times of searching full text of documents containing a particular character string or string from a document database or databases and the search result set is stored in the table: col. 17, lines 10-28; col. 1, lines 12-20; also see fig. 22, col. 19, lines 47-60 and col. 4, lines 44-60 and col. 5, lines 4-32).

With respect to claim 14, Hatakeyama teaches storing, in the associative search recording table, a number of times x_{ij} of searching a document database j based on a search result of a keyword I (col. 4, lines 44-60 and col. 5, lines 4-32).

With respect to claim 15, Hatakeyama teaches wherein for each document database of a plurality of select document databases, the associative search recording table has plural entries with differing entries for recording a respective number of times x_{ij} of searching the document database j based on a search result of differing ones of document databases or keywords i, respectively (fig. 17 shown the number of times of searching full text of documents containing a particular character string or string from a document database or databases and the search result set is stored in the table: col.

17, lines 10-28; col. 1, lines 12-20; also see fig. 22, col. 19, lines 47-60 and col. 4, lines

44-60 and col. 5, lines 4-32).

With respect to claim 16, Hatakeyama teaches a document search method (fig.

5, a document search and method system for searching and retrieving full text of

documents from a document database or databases: abstract, col. 1, lines 15-20 and

col. 10, lines 8-40) comprising the steps of:

instructing a document search by specifying a document database$_j$ to be

searched next among a plurality of document databases based on a search result

generated from a previous search of a document database$_i$ (the document search

system or server consisting of a search function/unit is for searching or retrieving full of

text of documents containing a particular character string or strings from document

database or databases, a set of search results containing the search term(s) (search

character strings) of the search processing performed in the past may be provided in

correspondence to the search request sources: figs. 4, 5, abstract, col. 6, lines 8-67);

storing an associative search recording table which records the number of times

Xij of searching a document database j based on a search result of a document

database I (fig. 17 shown the number of times of searching full text of documents

containing a particular character string or string from a document database or

databases and the search result set is stored in the table: col. 17, lines 10-28; col. 1,

lines 12-20; also see fig. 22, col. 19, lines 47-60); and

using data from said associative search recording table to help specify a

document database to be searched next among a plurality of document databases (col.

4, lines 8-22 and lines 44-60).

With respect to claim 17, Hatakeyama teaches changing a showing order of

document databases to be searched by using data from said associative search

recording table (the ordering of database is displayed: col. 19, lines 47-60).

With respect to claim 18, Hatakeyama teaches wherein a differing said

associative search recording table is stored for each user, and, by using said

associative search recording table for each user, a showing order of document

databases to be searched is changed according to a user (this a document search

system for a plurality of users to perform the search and who might be enable to change

the search such as condition, selecting of input database: col. 17, lines 40-55, col. 10,

lines 50-55 and col. 1, lines 20-25).

Claim 21 is essentially the same as claim 10 except that it is directed to a method

rather than a system, and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 10

hereinabove.

Claim 22 is essentially the same as claim 11 except that it is directed to a method

rather than a system, and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 11

hereinabove.

Claim 23 is essentially the same as claim 12 except that it is directed to a method

rather than a system, and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 12

hereinabove.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

12.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

13.   Claims 4-5, 9 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,454,105 issued to Hatakeyama et al. (hereinafter

Hatakeyama) in view of in view of US Patent No. 6,018,733 issued to Kirsch et al.

(hereinafter Kirsch).

With respect to claims 4-5, Hatakeyama discloses a document search system as

discussed in claim 1.

Hatakeyama teaches a document search system for allowing a plurality of users

to searching a full-text of documents in a document database or databases and the set

of search results are stored in a table based on the number of times of searching the

document databases. Hatakeyama does not teach calculating a registration fee of each

document database by using said associative search recording table.

However, Kirsch teaches fees are charged based on the calculation of the

number of documents that are variously searched, reviewed and retrieved in

preparation of a search report from a particular database (col. 1, lines 55-63 and col. 2,

lines 10-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at

the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Hatakeyama with the

teachings of Kirsch by incorporating the use of a calculation of access fee for each of

document database to be searched. The motivation being to perform effective

document searches over multiple, independent document databases, thereby, reducing

the searching time required and to enhance the convenience for the user the document

search to be searched and for evaluation properly the document database.

With respect to claim 9, Hatakeyama discloses a document search system as

discussed in claim 6.

Hatakeyama teaches a document search system for allowing a plurality of users

to searching a full-text of documents in a document database or databases and the set

of search results are stored in a table based on the number of times of searching the

document databases. Hatakeyama does not teach calculating a registration fee of each

document database by using said associative search recording table.

However, Kirsch teaches fees are charged based on the calculation of the

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at

the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Hatakeyama with the

teachings of Kirsch by incorporating the use of a calculation of access fee for each of

document database to be searched. The motivation being to perform effective

document searches over multiple, independent document databases, thereby, reducing

the searching time required and to enhance the convenience for the user the document

search to be searched and for evaluation properly the document database.

With respect to claims 19-20, Hatakeyama discloses a document search method

as discussed in claim 16.

Hatakeyama teaches a document search system for allowing a plurality of users

to searching a full-text of documents in a document database or databases and the set

of search results are stored in a table based on the number of times of searching the

document databases. Hatakeyama does not teach calculating a registration fee of each

document database by using said associative search recording table.

However, Kirsch teaches fees are charged based on the calculation of the

number of documents that are variously searched, reviewed and retrieved in

preparation of a search report from a particular database (col. 1, lines 55-63 and col. 2,

lines 10-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at

the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Hatakeyama with the

teachings of Kirsch by incorporating the use of a calculation of access fee for each of document database to be searched. The motivation being to perform effective document searches over multiple, independent document databases, thereby, reducing the searching time required and to enhance the convenience for the user the document search to be searched and for evaluation properly the document database.

Conclusion

14.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).
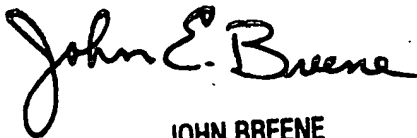
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

15.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (571) 272-4039 or
via E-Mail: ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV (**Written Authorization being given by Applicant**
(MPEP 502.03 [R-2])) or fax to (571) 273-4039 (**Examiner's personal Fax No.**). The
examiner can normally be reached on TUESDAY – THURSDAY from 8:30 AM – 3:30
PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, **John Breene**, can be reached on (571) 272-4107.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the
Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published
applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status
information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For
more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you
have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business
Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). Any response to this action should be mailed
to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, or faxed to:
Central Fax Center: (571) 273-8300

ANH LY
OCT. 19th, 2006

JOHN BREENE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100